

***THE TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 23, 2007***

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. Selectmen present were: James McIlroy, Wes Moore and Janet Smith. Others present were: Brian Knipstein (Road Agent), Lisa Zhe, Chief Reed, Lt. Gould, Fran Lane (Town Counsel), and Attorney Tom Closson.

James began a discussion on the Winter Parking Ban. He said some residents are unhappy that they are receiving tickets when there is no snow. James asked if anything different could be done. Chief Reed stated that some residents do call him to let him know they are having a party and ask if they can they park on the street. His response is that he will let the Officer on duty know, but that the cars will be ticketed if it snows.

Wes said that the police use their own discretion in issuing speeding tickets and could they do the same with parking tickets? Wes said that this should be town-wide, not restricted to certain areas. Wes said that in Exeter and Newmarket the plow drivers will beep their horn once in warning if a vehicle is parked on the street during a snowstorm and make another pass later. If the vehicle is still there on the second pass, the police department is called to have the vehicle towed. He asked if this would work in Newfields.

Brian said that the people in Newfields are very good about not parking on the street (except for holiday parties). Most of the people will move their cars if they see the snowplows. The ramifications of not ticketing would be damage to the vehicles from the snow and/or snowplows and having to make more than one pass on a road. Making additional passes adds to the cost of snow removal.

If a vehicle is parked off of the pavement, it is not a problem for the Highway Department or the Police Department.

Wes would like to leave the decision to ticket to up to the officer on duty ie: no chance of snow – no parking tickets. Brian said this is the first complaint he has heard of and that there is no perfect solution. Lt. Gould stated that people will complain that they received a parking ticket and their neighbor did not receive one the week before. Brian feels that the current plan works, but a little more leeway should be given around the winter holidays.

Janet feels the same as Wes about the police using discretion.

It was decided that the residents should call the Police Department at 772-9010 if they are having a gathering and need to park cars on the street. The Police

Department will advise the resident that they will need to move the cars to off-street parking in the event of snow. The Police Chief will have this information posted on the Town's Website.

A discussion was held about Bobbie Byrne's resignation from the Conservation Commission. Wes suggested that Bobbie make an appointment to meet with the Selectmen.

At 7:40pm the Selectmen went into an Executive session with Town Counsel, Fran Lane. At 9:50pm the meeting went back into a public session.

The Selectmen reviewed Attorney Lane's comments on the proposed addendum to Police Chief Reed's contract which expired on December 31st, 2006. The addendum was sent on to Attorney Tom Closson (the personnel attorney) for his review.

At 9:52pm the Selectmen went into a non-public session per RSA 91-A3II with Attorney Tom Closson. The meeting returned to a public session at 11:00pm. Wes made a motion to seal the minutes of this portion of the meeting. James seconded the motion and it passed with both in favor.

Two invoices from the Lane Law Offices were initialed to be forwarded to the Conservation Commission.

The Bestway renewal contract will be discussed and signed at a later meeting.

The correspondence from the Lamprey Regional Cooperative was reviewed.

The announcement of a Department of Revenue Mini-Course was reviewed.

Janet left shortly before the meeting ended.

Wes made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 16th, 2007 Selectmen's Meeting as amended. James seconded the motion and the motion passed with both in favor.

Wes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:20pm. James seconded the motion and the motion passed with both in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer

